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As the President so eloquently reminded us last night, job losses are accelerating. In the last year, we have lost 3.6 million jobs—and half of those were in the last 3 months. In January, we lost 20,000 a day.

The longer we wait, the worse things will get. The longer we wait, the more it will take to turn our economy around. We can't afford to wait any longer.

I support the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, because I believe we need to act soon. It will create 4 million jobs, and that is what this package should be about: jobs, jobs, jobs.

I believe that this is a good bill, but I wish to offer a couple of thoughts about how we could make it better.

As we go forward on conference negotiations with the House, I urge my colleagues to restore the education and State stabilization funding that was removed from the bill.

Because of the collapsing economy, my State of Delaware is facing a budget shortfall of \$600 million, 20 percent of the State budget. The new Governor, Jack Markell, is staring at tremendous budget cuts if we do not act, when fully a third of the State budget goes to education.

That is why I hope my colleagues will find a way to restore the education funding and State stabilization funding that was removed. I hope they will help Governor Markell and the 49 other Governors. Both the education funding and the State stabilization funding affect the ability of states to keep teachers in the classroom and to repair, renovate, and construct schools. These school construction projects not only create—and save—jobs, but are also good long-term investments for our children and grandchildren.

For too long, I have heard stories of children in crumbling schools, with outdated textbooks and outdated computers, if they have any. To give our children a fair chance, to compete with the rest of the world, to keep America's economic future bright, we must make a downpayment now.

And in education, we have a downpayment that can create jobs now. In my State of Delaware alone, \$68 million of shovel-ready school construction projects are awaiting our help.

I will close, Mr. President, with this thought. Our children, if they could speak with one voice, want only what all Americans want: a fair shot, a fighting chance, an equal opportunity.

The people I talk to in Delaware just want a chance. They are willing to work hard, and they have. They are willing to play by the rules, and they have. They want to save for tomorrow. In return, all they ask is a job they can rely on, a home for their families, and a government that will help them out when they need a hand.

The Senate bill focuses on keeping and restoring jobs. It will begin the

task of slowing and reversing our economic troubles, and I hope we can get a final bill to the President soon.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS SUBJECT TO CALL OF THE CHAIR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:13 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair, and reassembled at 4:48 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. BEGICH).

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SERGEANT EZRA DAWSON

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of SGT Ezra Dawson from Las Vegas, NV. Ezra was thirty-one years old when he lost his life on January 17, 2009, from injuries sustained from a helicopter crash in Konar Province, Afghanistan.

Today, I join Ezra's family and friends in mourning his death. Ezra will forever be remembered as a loving brother, son, and friend to many. Ezra is survived by his devoted wife Starlia Dorsey-Dawson of Las Vegas, NV; his stepdaughter Diamond Dorsey, also of Las Vegas, NV; his mother Eva Davenport, of Indianapolis, IN; his sister Atarah Wright, of Oklahoma City, OK; and a host of other friends and relatives.

Ezra joined the Battalion Reconnaissance Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, of Fort Hood, TX, in January 2008. He served as a junior scout and sniper team member, and as a leader for a reconnaissance team in the Korengal Valley.

For his valiant service, Ezra was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, NATO Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon and Combat Infantry Badge.

While we struggle to express our sorrow over this loss, we can take pride in the example Ezra set as both a soldier and a father. Today and always, he will be remembered by family and friends as a true American hero, and we cherish the legacy of his service and his life.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Ezra Dawson in the official record of the United States Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy and peace. I pray that Ezra's family can find comfort in the words of the prophet Isaiah who said, "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces."

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God be with all of you, as I know He is with Ezra.

MONEY LAUNDERING CONTROL ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2009

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, yesterday I joined with Senator GRAHAM in introducing the Money Laundering Control Enhancement Act of 2009. This bill would clarify congressional intent and ensure that federal prosecutors are able to more effectively fight money laundering and terrorism financing.

In particular, this bill would overturn the Supreme Court's narrow and confusing decision in *United States v. Santos* and clarify that, as used in the Money Laundering Control Act, the term "proceeds" refers to the total receipts—not simply the profits—of an illegal activity. To interpret this statute differently, as the *Santos* decision suggests we should, would create needless problems of proof and unfairly burden prosecutors. In a world where criminals and terrorists are constantly developing new and more sophisticated ways to hide and launder dirty money, it does not make sense to require prosecutors to prove that these dangerous criminals generated a profit from their illegal activities. Alternatively, interpreting the term "proceeds" in a way that encompasses all of the funds received by these individuals would ensure that federal law is consistent with the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, the Model Money Laundering Act, and money laundering statutes in the fourteen states that use and define the word "proceeds."

At a time when both our economic and national security are being threatened, it would be a grave mistake to underestimate the threat posed by money laundering. The most recent National Money Laundering Strategy, which was developed jointly by the Departments of Treasury, Justice, and Homeland Security, states that "Money Laundering, in its own right, is a serious threat to our national and economic security. Integrating illicit proceeds into the financial system, enables organized crime, fuels corruption, and erodes confidence in the rule of law." In the face of such a threat, we must provide our hard-working law enforcement officials with the tools they need to bring these criminals to justice.

I have great respect for our Supreme Court. But sometimes, as in the case